

Through community action such as this, the American tradition of tolerance and acceptance will continue to thrive.

The resolution that I introduce today is modeled after the one organized by my constituents in Hayward. As the resolution states, judging people by appearance, color of skin, or religious beliefs is contrary to the fundamental principles of our country. Racism undermines our unity as a people and leads to social unrest and alienation. Therefore, there truly is no room for racism in our society.

During this time of heightened tension, we must be particularly vigilant to protect the rights of all Americans, regardless of color or creed. I applaud my constituents in Hayward, California for their campaign against racism and I am pleased to introduce this resolution on their behalf.

THE TANF REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2001

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 7, 2002

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, all too often, we forget that work-first policies do not just affect adult individuals.

We must remember that—when we talk about adults—we are also talking about families—and families include children.

While their parents are away from home at work, children require quality—affordable—child-care.

It is an unfortunate reality that many of the jobs performed by parents supported by TANF involve working late at night or at irregular hours—in fact, at the very times when it is extremely hard to find safe, affordable child-care.

These circumstances are particularly difficult for families with young children and children with disabilities.

Even when the parents are able to find child-care, they often find that their jobs do not pay enough to cover food, housing and utilities. Stretching those dollars to cover the cost of child-care can be extremely difficult for low-income families.

I have co-sponsored the TANF Reauthorization Act of 2001 (H.R. 3113) because—as we continue to emphasize work as a means to achieving economic security—we must stand up for working families by making safe, quality, affordable child-care accessible to all children.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO WALT WINKLER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 7, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I pay tribute today to Mr. Waldemar “Walt” Winkler, a good friend of mine and a good friend to all who knew and loved him. Walt was a man of unquestioned integrity and of unparalleled morality. He will be sorely missed by each and every person whose life he touched, and I am no exception. As his family mourns his loss, I believe it is

appropriate to remember Walt and pay tribute to him for his contributions to his city, his state and his country.

Walt, who was born on October 27, 1912, was an avid outdoorsman who dedicated his life to his nation and to the principles of forestry. He received a forestry degree from the University of Minnesota and went to work for the U.S. Forest Service shortly after graduating. When Pearl Harbor was attacked, Walt joined the Air Force and fought bravely in the European Theatre. After returning from the war, he went back to work for the U.S. Forest Service, serving in the Medicine Bow, Rio Grande and Black Hills national forests. In 1957, Walt took a position with the White River National Forest, where he served until his retirement in 1975.

Walt was not only a soldier and a trusted government employee, but he was also a dedicated volunteer. He selflessly gave his time to the Boy Scouts of America, the American Red Cross, the Rotary Club, the American Legion and the Society of American Foresters. He was also an avid painter and sportsman. He is survived by his wonderful wife Jane, his son Waldemar Jr., brother Clyde, daughter-in-law Lisa Pedolsky and granddaughter Merritt.

Mr. Speaker, we are all terribly saddened by the loss of Walt Winkler, but take comfort in the knowledge that our grief is overshadowed only by the legacy of courage, selflessness and love that Walt left with all of us. Walt Winkler's life is the very embodiment of all that makes this country great, and I am deeply honored to be able to bring his life to the attention of this body of Congress.

ELECTION FUND FREE CHOICE AND SAVINGS ACT

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 7, 2002

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce legislation today that will strengthen our political parties and at the same time reduce our federal deficit.

The bill I am introducing today, the Election Fund Free Choice and Savings Act of 2002, reduces the deficit by providing that contributions made to the Presidential Election Campaign Fund must be made with after-tax additions to the contributor's regular tax payment. This would provide for a truly voluntary contribution from the citizen rather than a reallocation of funds from the Treasury or from the Social Security Trust Fund.

Additionally, the bill provides free choice by allowing taxpayers to choose to designate contributions to the Fund to a particular political party.

For over 25 years, presidential elections have been financed largely through public funds which are raised through a voluntary tax checkoff. All Americans are familiar with the checkoff box for the Presidential Election Campaign Fund which first appeared on their tax forms in 1972. By checking the box, taxpayers allocate dollars from the Treasury to be distributed to federal candidates, nominees, and party nominating conventions. The taxpayer has no voice as to whom these funds go or where these funds will be spent.

My proposal allows taxpayers who contribute to the Fund to have the option of designating a particular political party to receive their contribution. This free choice for American taxpayers would recognize the importance of America's political parties in our electoral system. It would strengthen the parties' ability to educate citizens, to register new voters and to promote voting in general. Furthermore, it would assure the taxpayer that their contribution is not going to an individual who holds political views in opposition to their own.

Additionally, by requiring that contributions to the Fund be made with after-tax dollars, the federal deficit is reduced substantially. In 2000 the Fund disbursed over \$200 million to candidates. In the future these funds would stay in the Treasury or the Social Security Trust Fund and help to pay down the national debt.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring this important reform to the Presidential Election Campaign Fund. It is a simple question of fairness and fiscal discipline that merits your support.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 7, 2002

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, during today's rollcall votes on S. 1888, H. Con. Res. 312, H.J. Res. 82, and ordering the previous question on H. Res. 342, I was in Ohio attending the funeral of a family member. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of each of these measures.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL PETER T. BENTLEY

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 7, 2002

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication to the community and to the overall well-being of California's Inland Empire and the Nation is unparalleled—Colonel Peter T. Bentley.

Calvin Coolidge, America's 13th President, once said, “Patriotism is easy to understand in America; it means looking out for yourself by looking out for your country.” On Saturday February 9th 2002, Colonel Bentley will be honored for over 30 years of distinguished military service in which he dedicated his career in protecting fellow Americans.

Colonel Bentley is the outgoing commander of the Air Force Reserve Command's 452nd Air Mobility Wing at March Air Reserve base in Riverside California. The wing is the Air Force Reserve's only unit-equipped air mobility wing with 18 C-141Cs, 10 KC-135Rs and more than 4,000 reservists.

With true valor and love of country, Colonel Bentley voluntarily enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1970 through Officer Training School in Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. He has served in a variety of flying, command and staff positions throughout his career in the Air Force and Air Force Reserve. He is a command pilot with more than 8,000 hours in air